

Summary Description of Conservation Strategy Alternative Descriptions

Conservation Strategy Alternative (CSA) 1—Operations Modifications with Existing Conveyance Configuration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals within the existing Delta conveyance configuration by improving SWP and CVP operations and facilities management and diversion-related infrastructure to reduce mortality of and improve flow-related habitat conditions for covered fish species sufficiently to increase their production, abundance, and distribution.

CSA 2—In-Delta Habitat Restoration under Existing Operations

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals within the existing Delta conveyance configuration and operations by physically restoring extensive tracts of physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta to provide sufficient habitat area and quality of covered species to increase their production, abundance, and distribution.

CSA 3—Opportunistic Exports with In-Delta (within planning area) Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals by increasing export capacity and limiting exports to occur only during periods of high flow and when covered fish species are least vulnerable to entrainment; improving flow-related habitat conditions; and restoring extensive tracts of physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta to provide sufficient habitat area and quality to increase covered species production, abundance, and distribution.

CSA 4—South Delta Aqueduct (SDA) with In-Delta Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals by creating a new Delta conveyance configuration to provide for improved fluctuating salinities and variable hydrology in the western and northern Delta and improving ecosystem water quality in the South Delta, and restoring extensive tracts of physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta to provide sufficient covered species habitat area and quality to increase their production, abundance, and distribution. Interim conservation measures would be implemented during construction of the new facilities and long-term conservation measures would be implemented following construction.

CSA 5—Isolated Facility (IF) with In-Delta Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals by creating new Delta conveyance configuration to provide fluctuating salinities and variable hydrology throughout the Delta, avoiding entrainment at the pumps, and restoring extensive tracts of physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta to provide sufficient habitat area and quality of covered species to increase their production, abundance, and distribution. Interim conservation measures would be implemented during construction of the new facilities and long-term conservation measures would be implemented following construction.

CSA 6—Suisun Marsh Habitat Restoration in Combination with In-Delta Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals within the existing Delta conveyance configuration and operations by restoring physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta and Suisun Marsh (outside of the Planning Area) to provide sufficient covered species habitat area and quality to increase their production, abundance, and distribution. This alternative will restore less in-Delta habitat (e.g., 40-60%) than would be restored under CSA 2.

CSA 7—Upstream Habitat Restoration in Combination with In-Delta (within planning area) Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals within the existing Delta conveyance configuration and operations by restoring physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta and outside the planning area along the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries to provide sufficient covered species habitat area and quality to increase their production, abundance, and distribution. This alternative will restore less in-Delta habitat (e.g., 40-60%) than would be restored under CSA 2.

CSA 8—Bifurcated SDA with In-Delta Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals by altering the existing Delta conveyance configuration to provide for fluctuating salinities and variable hydrology in the western and northern Delta, improving ecosystem water quality in the South Delta, and restoring extensive tracts of physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta to provide sufficient habitat area and quality of covered species to increase their production, abundance, and distribution. Interim conservation measures would be implemented during construction of the new facilities and long-term conservation measures would be implemented following construction.

CSA 9—Dual Conveyance with In-Delta (within planning area) Habitat Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals by altering the existing Delta conveyance configuration to provide flexibility in Delta operations to reduce effects of operations-related entrainment; improve fluctuating hydrologic conditions for covered fish species while maintaining in-Delta channel stage and water quality; and restoring extensive tracts of physical aquatic and floodplain habitats within the Delta to provide sufficient covered species habitat area and quality to increase their production, abundance, and distribution. Interim conservation measures would be implemented during construction of the new facilities and long-term conservation measures would be implemented following construction.

CSA 10—Split Delta with San Joaquin River Corridor Restoration

Achieve BDCP Conservation Goals by operating and reconfiguring in-Delta conveyance of San Joaquin River to isolate covered fish species from the South Delta pumps and restoring estuarine habitat in the south and west Delta to provide sufficient covered species habitat area and quality to increase their production, abundance, and distribution.